PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/474,783 Confirmation No.: 2707

Applicant : Donald K. Newell et al. Filed : December 30, 1999

TC/A.U. : 2424

Examiner : Annan Q. Shang

Docket No. : P6929/1020P6929

Customer No.: 57035

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 3, 2012 (hereinafter, "the Office Action"), with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 3, 2012, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.